

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Indiana Government Center South
302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-232-3980

For Immediate Release October 21, 2008

Lt. Gov. Skillman, IDHS Present \$200,000 to Bedford Fire Department

Bedford selected as site for District 8 fire training facility

Bedford, IN – Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman presented a \$200,000 check to the Bedford Fire Department today in two grants from the Indiana Department of Homeland Security to construct the District 8 fire training facility in Bedford and support other areas of advanced training.

"Our firefighters perform key services in our communities," said Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman. "With this grant funding, fire departments can deliver an even greater level of security to the residents of Southern Indiana. I am proud to have Bedford designated as the District 8 training center."

In addition to helping the Bedford Fire Department and Lawrence County, the grant also will benefit the surrounding counties of Bartholomew, Brown, Jackson, Monroe, Orange and Washington. 65 fire departments in the district will have access to the training facility.

"It is critically important that firefighters receive regular and consistent basic training courses," said Joe Wainscott, executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. "With training centers close by, fire departments have more opportunities to improve their individual and collective skills."

The funds develops unique fire training facilities that will give firefighters the ability to learn and practice skills used during daily operations. The facility can not be duplicated within a district. The District 8 training council selected the proposed Bedford training facility location, adjacent to Murray Forest Park, from land donated by the City of Bedford.

###

Contact

John Erickson, IDHS, 317.234.4214, jerickson@dhs.in.gov Rachel Meyer, IDHS, 317.232.8303, rmeyer@dhs.in.gov